## STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

## Department of The Secretary of State

IN THE MATTER OF:

AMENDED ORDER OF REVOCATION OF NOTARY PUBLIC COMMISSION FILE NO. 2016-NP-1168

## **MICAH GRIMES**

WHEREAS, an Order of Revocation was issued herein on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2017, that in error included in the caption or title thereof the word "PERMANENT"; and

WHEREAS, the revocation referenced in the November 21, 2017 order was not intended to be, and is not in fact, permanent, the caption or title of said order is hereby amended by removing the word "PERMANENT" therefrom; and

WHEREAS, no other amendment appearing necessary, the Order of November 21, 2017, the provisions of which are contained herein immediately below, remains unchanged and remains in full force and effect from the date of its issuance; and

WHEREAS, MICAH GRIMES of Craven County, North Carolina was commissioned to act as a Notary Public on July 9, 2013, and presently continues to hold such commission; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Secretary of State received a complaint in August of 2016 concerning the performance of certain notarial acts by MICAH GRIMES; and

WHEREAS, following an investigation of the aforesaid complaint, the Department of Secretary of State determined that MICAH GRIMES notarized the forged signature of the principal on a document, which is a violation of North Carolina General Statute Chapter 10B-60(d)(1) and 18 North Carolina Administrative Code 07B.0901(12)(13).

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. §10B-60(d)(1) states, "A notary shall be guilty of a Class I felony if the notary does any of the following:

(1) Takes an acknowledgment or a verification or a proof, or administers an oath or affirmation if the notary knows it is false or fraudulent."

WHEREAS, 18 NCAC 07B.0901(12)(13) states, "When determining whether to deny an application or take disciplinary action against a notary, the Director may consider a variety of factors including:

- (12) Willfulness;
- (13) Negligence."

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. §10B-60(a) provides that the Secretary of State may revoke a notarial commission on any ground for which an application for a commission may be denied under N.C. Gen. Stat. §10B-5(d); and N.C. Gen. Stat. §10B-5(d)(5) provides that the Secretary of State may deny an application for a commission if the applicant has engaged in official misconduct within the meaning of N.C. Gen. Stat. §10B-3(15)(a&b); and

WHEREAS, the Department of Secretary of State determined that the aforesaid actions of MICAH GRIMES constitute official misconduct. MICAH GRIMES notarized the forged signature of the principal on a document, which is a violation of N.C. Gen. Stat. §10B-60(d)(1) and 18 NCAC 07B.0901(12)(13). After consideration of all the evidence available, the Department determined that the interest of the public will best be served by the revocation of the Notary Public Commission of MICAH GRIMES.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the commission of MICAH GRIMES, of Craven County, to act as a Notary Public is REVOKED IMMEDIATELY, and

WHEREAS, N.C. Gen. Stat. §10B-36(d) requires, "as soon as is reasonably practicable after resignation, revocation, or expiration of a notary commission, or death of the notary, the seal shall be delivered to the Secretary for disposal."

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that MICAH GRIMES surrender his notarial stamp or seal to the Secretary of State by delivering the said stamp and seal to the Director of the Certification and Filing Division of the Department of the Secretary of State.

WITNESS MY HAND this the 29th day of March 2018.

ELAINE F. MARSHALL SECRETARY OF STATE

BY:

Ozie Stallworth, Director Notary Enforcement Section Certification and Filing Division

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